

Docket No.: 4296-105.1 US

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Gregory Houghton

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Aoyagi et al.

Serial No. 09/931,468

Filed: August 16, 2001

Title: NOVEL ABSORBENT

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Examiner: TRAN, Susan T.

Group Art Unit: 1615

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

This reply is submitted pursuant to the Office Action mailed December 3, 2003 to which a Response is due March 3, 2004. A petition for three month's extension of time is herewith submitted, thus extending the due time for response until June 3, 2004. Reconsideration of the present rejections and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 6-11, and 13-19 are under consideration.